SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, has it come to the knowledge of the Government that racketeers operate? We want full help to the small-scale industries but there are racketeers operating, who masquerade as small-scale operators. There are operators in the small-scale industry who take all the advantages. May I know from the Minister whether, earlier when they had conceded that there were rackets being operated in this area, they have taken any stringent measures, whether they have prosecuted anyone, whether they have taken actual action in the past against such racketeers?

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Do you have a small-scale unit?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, we have come across instances of abuse of facilities like this and we have taken action wherever it was there and we will continue to do the same. But this should not deviate us from the path of giving relief to the genuine ones. We will take action. So far as racketeers are concerned, Mr. Nirmal Chatterjee may rest assured that even if it is FERA racketeers we will deal with them.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: I have inquired whether Mr. Salve has any small-scale unit... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Sir, I protest. When I asked about racketeers he has addressed Mr. Nirmal Chatterjee.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Sir, the policy of the Government is to encourage small-scale industries. But I want to know whether, if in the guise of small-scale industries FERA companies and MRTP companies are registered as small-scale industries, the Government will take action to see that those companies are not registered as small-scale industries.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, we will look into the benami type of activities where large scale units indulge in it to take benefit as small-scale units by benami arrangements. We will look into this and try to plug that.

*189. [*The Questioner (Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal) was absen for answer vide col....infra*].

National equity fund for tiny sector

*190. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the creation of a national equity fund for the tiny sector; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the purpose of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) All aspects, including resource availability and other alternative approaches of the proposal are under consideration of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.